Message Text

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R 131200Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9227 INFO USMISSION NATO

CONFIDENTIAL BELGRADE 205

EO 11652: NA TAGS: CSCE YO SUBJ: CSCE ACTIVITIES

BCBS. CBCE HE II VII

REF: STATE 4410

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. YUGOSLAV PRESIDENCY MEETING ON CSCE: UNDER TITO'S CHAIRMANSHIP YUGOSLAV PRESIDENCY MET JAN 10 TO CON-SIDER CSCE IMPLEMENTATION TO DATE AND PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE 77. REPORTED ASSESSMENT WAS THAT IMPLEMENTATION THUS FAR HAS BEEN UNSATISFACTORY, WITH, HOWEVER, SOME EXCEPTIONS, NOTABLY BORDER AGREEMENT BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND ITALY. PRESIDENCY CONCLUDED THAT NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ARE STILL OPEN AND THAT SOME CONDUCT AND ACTIONS TAKAY SINCE HELSINKI MEETING REPRESENT VIOLATION OF FINAL ACT. IN THIS RESPECT, PRESS REPORT REFERS TO SITUATION IN MEDITERRANEAN AS ESPECIALLY CAUSING CONCERN, GOY PRESIDENCY BELIEVES THAT PERIOD SINCE HELSINKI HAS SHOWN THAT LESSENING OF TENSIONS AND STABILITY IN EUROPE CAN BE MADE DURABLE ONLY BY A PROCESS WHICH IS NEITHER REDUCED TO AGREEMENTS BETWEEN BLOCS NOR "LIMITED ONLY TO ONE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OR SEPARATE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS." STRESS ALSO PLACED CONFIDENTIAL

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ON FURTHER CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES, ON "DISENGAGEMENT" AND DISARMAMENT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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2. WHEN ASKED JAN 12 BY EMBOFF ABOUT PRESIDENCY

MEETING ON CSCE AT THIS TIME, FSFA CSCE COUNSELOR PLESE
CAUTIONED AGAINST PLACING ANY SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE ON ITWE
PLESE CLAIMED MEETING WAS PART OF GOY'SICORMAL REVIEW PROCEDURE ON MATTER SUCH AS CSCE AND EXPECTED THAT PRESIDENCY
WILL MEET AT LEAST ONCE AGAIN BEFORE BELGRADE 77 TO REVIEW
PREPARATIONS. OF END-OF-JANUARY NEUTRALS/NON-ALGINED
MEETING SET FOR BELGRADE, PLESE STRESSED ITS INFORMALITY,
SAYING NO AGENDA WAS PLANNED. HE SAID GOY DID NOT EXPECT
ANY MAJOR DISAGREEMENT ON SUBJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE DISCUSSED. ON PREPARATION CONFERENCE BEGINNING JUNE 15,
HE MENTIONED DIVISION BETWEEXEN THOSE NATIONS HOPING TO
FORWARD A GENERAL AGENDA FOR THE MAIN MEETING AND OTHERS
WHICH NOW PREFER A SPECIFIC AGENDA. GOY'S THINKING ON
ISSUE IS NOT COMPLETE, BUT IT SEEMS TO BE LEANING IN
FAVOR OF MORE GENERAL AGENDA/#

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3. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS: IN ORDER TO AVOID KEYSTONE COPS-LIKE PURSUIT OF OFFICE SPACE AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS, AND IN GENERAL TO PREVENT YUGOSLAVS FROM PLAYING US OFF AGAINST ONE ANOTHER, REPRESENTATIVES OF MOST NATO EMBASSIES IN BELGRADE HAVE AGREEDCFO MEET INFORMALLY AND IRREGULARLY TO REVIEW BOTH GOY AND OWN PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE 77. ADMIN COUNSELOR ATTENDED FIRST SUCH MEETING JAN 7, A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY UK COUNSELOR, WHICH INCLUDED CSCE EXECUTIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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SECRETARY BOZINOVIC AND ASSISTANT NOVAKOVIC (FORMER PRESS COUNSELOR IN U.S.) FNTAILS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY BUT OF NOTE WAS ASSURANCE BY BOZINOVIC THAT CONSTRUCTION OF CONFERENCE SITE WILL BE COMPLETED ON TIME. HE COULD GIVE NO GUARANTEES ON AVAILABILITY OF OFFICE SPACE IN CONFERENCE CENTER ITSELF AND SUGGESTED THAT DELEGATIONS IN NEED OF MORE THAN A CUBBYHOLE BEGIN TO LOOK ELSEWHERE. (DESPITE GENERAL SKEPTICISM HERE ON BOZINOVIC'S COMPLETION ASSURANCE, WE NOTE THAT CONSTRUCTION APPEARS TO BE ON SCHEDULE.)

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4. REGARDING REFTEL ADDRESSEES, WE WISH TO REMIND DEPARTMENT AGAIN OF OUR AGREEMENT TO REFRAIN FROM INCLUDING YUGOSLAVS WITH MOSCOW/WARSAW PACT MEMBERS IN CSCE CONTEXT. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IF YUGOSLAVS

BECOME AWARE OF SUCH TREATMENT OUR INTERESTS HERE WOULD BE DAMAGED. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE OBJECT TO PARTICULAR REQUIREMENT IN REFTEL WHICH IN FACT WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN FOLLOWING BEFORE RECEIPT. YORK

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